



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER QUANTIFYING DEBRIS WORKSHOP

The next session of the LEEC's Quantifying Debris workshop, to be held June 25-27, 2014 at Rockefeller Refuge in Cameron Parish has a limited number of spots remaining. Participants will discover the local flora and fauna with area biologists, conduct beach profiling, receive GPS training and up to 16 professional development hours, and return home with a multitude of lessons and activities for their classrooms.

The event is open to teachers from EPA Region 6, encompassing Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Find the event flyer [here](#) and apply online at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/quantifying-debris-workshop-application>.

SUMMER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

LUMCON TO HOST EDUCATIONAL EVENT FOR FAMILIES

LUMCON will host a 1-day event for students 12 years old or older and their families. The event, to be held May 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., is titled "Life Along the Edge". The focus of the event on the fishes that live along the marsh edge and how scientists are using those fishes to measure the health of the marshes after the oil spill.

The cost is \$10 person and includes lunch and snacks, hands-on field and lab activities, presentations by LUMCON scientists, and a kayaking trip. Register at <http://cwc.lumcon.edu/?p=3869>.

SUMMER SCIENCE AND ART CAMP AT LUMCON FOR 8TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS JUNE 8-11

This \$50, 4-day summer art and science experience is designed to help students (8th-12th grade) learn more about coastal wetland science and art. Each student will participate in science-based exploration of our coastal marshes. Students will also approach the experiences as artists and use the marshes as inspiration for art projects they will complete during camp.

Camp Highlights:

- Hands-on science activities in the marsh
- Trips aboard research vessels and paddling trips
- Training in wetland science and art with professionals

Meals and lodging at the Defelice Marine Center provided. Ten total spaces are available (only students in grades 8-12th will be considered). The application deadline is May 16, 2014

Interested students must submit the following application materials.

- a completed application form (Contact Murt Conover)
- a one-page essay on their interest in either wetland science or art
- 1 current teacher recommendation

Contact: Murt Conover mconover@lumcon.edu or (985) 851-2860

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

DOW TEACHER CHALLENGE

Dow is introducing its STEM THE GAP Teacher Challenge. Teachers of all fields are invited to submit their ideas for increasing STEM education in the classroom. The top 25 entries will earn a \$1,000 grant to be used in the classroom! Visit www.dow.com/education to submit an entry.

DOLLAR GENERAL YOUTH LITERACY GRANTS; DEADLINE MAY 22

Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Grant funding is provided to assist in the following areas: implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs; purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives; and purchasing books, materials or software for literacy programs. Maximum grant award is \$4,000. See more at <http://bit.ly/1i0oLDc>.

LIVING IN A MATERIAL WORLD GRANTS: DEADLINE MAY 25

To help K–12 teachers bring the real world of materials science into their classrooms, the ASM Materials Education Foundation awards 10 grants of \$500 annually. The “Living in a Material World” grants recognize teacher creativity. Their purpose is to enhance awareness of materials science and the role of materials scientists in society. Applicants must submit a two-page proposal describing a curriculum-based, hands-on project involving students' observations, communication, and mathematics and science skills that will increase their awareness of the materials around them. For more information, visit <http://www.asminternational.org/web/guest/foundation/teachers/teacher-grants-k12>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JOINT LATM/LSTA CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics and the Louisiana Science Teachers Association will host a joint math and science conference in Shreveport, LA on October 20-22, 2014. Interested presenters may submit a proposal for a 3-hour or 6-hour session or field trip that will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014. Three offsite computer labs are available for technology sessions. With the exception of extended sessions which require a computer lab, presenters must provide all equipment (computers, LCD panels, Internet access, and other items) needed for their presentation.

To submit an online Extended Session proposal go to: A link to the proposal form is also posted on the LATM website at lamath.org/conference2014. Proposals must be submitted via this link by June 15, 2014.

ERC WORKSHOPS AT STENNIS SPACE CENTER

The NASA Educator Resource Center (ERC) at Stennis Space Center had announced its professional development workshops for educators for Summer 2014. K-12 teachers can receive CEUs for these free workshops. Home school educators are welcome, too! Topics include physical science, life science, biology, mathematics, technology, engineering and much more. Workshops are available for all grade levels and are held on-site at Stennis Space Center and INFINITY Science Center.

For more information about workshops, visit the Stennis Education website at <http://education.ssc.nasa.gov/workshops.asp> or contact the NASA ERC by phone at (800) 237-1821 (option 2) or (228) 688-3338 or by email to ssc-nasaerc@mail.nasa.gov.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CONTD.

FREE LUMCON FROM H-2-O WORKSHOP JUNE 4-7TH COCODRIE, LA.

Learn how to train students to monitor water quality through water sampling. Help students to begin building the skills, knowledge, and interest needed to be citizen scientists. As teachers using water sampling in your classrooms, your students will learn about Louisiana's water resources, watersheds, their local environments, and their connection to the ocean.

Attendees of this workshop will also learn how their student's data and data from the Bayouside Classroom database (www.lumcon.edu/bayousideclassroom) can be used to test hypotheses and defend findings using evidence from historical data.

The workshop features hands on training of both water quality monitoring techniques and use of data. Include are :

- Free water quality monitoring equipment
- A cruise on the LUMCON R/V Acadiana
- Aircraft flight over the coastal areas of the Terrebonne watershed.
- Free housing and meals
- A travel stipend

In-service and pre-service teachers in science and/or math are encouraged to apply.

For more information about this workshop contact Murt Conover at (985) 851-2860 or mconover@lumcon.edu

Application/brochure can be found at <http://www.lumcon.edu/education/Teacher.asp>

LAGNIAPPE

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE CLEVER CLASSROOM TIPS?

The website Buzzfeed has a list of 25 clever classroom ideas for elementary teachers. Find it at http://www.buzzfeed.com/peggy/clever-classroom-tips-for-elementary-school-teachers?sub=2384828_1321145.

GEOGRAPHY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

The Association of American Geographers (AAG), an AGI member society, offers an array of web resources for K-12 and college-level instruction. These materials support geographic approaches to Earth science education:

The Geographic Advantage (<http://geographicadvantage.aag.org/>), an educational companion for the National Research Council's "Understanding the Changing Planet," outlines teaching strategies and geographic investigations that show students how geographers explore environmental change and sustainability.

AAG's Center for Global Geography Education (<http://www.aag.org/cgge>), offers online modules for undergraduate courses in geography and related social and environmental sciences. All modules feature a conceptual framework, regional case studies, and collaborative projects.

GeoSTART helps middle- and high-school students develop geography, Earth science, and spatial thinking skills using NASA Earth Observing Missions remote sensing imagery and related data. Go online http://www.aag.org/cs/education/k12_and_teacher_education/geostart_teaching_earth_science for free activities and materials.

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